

TRANSMITTAL FORM

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TRANSMITTAL FORM		Application Number	10/550,532
		Filing Date	September 22, 2005
		First Named Inventor	L.T. Duong et al.
		Art Unit	To be assigned
		Examiner Name	To be assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	5	Attorney Docket Number	21259YP

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

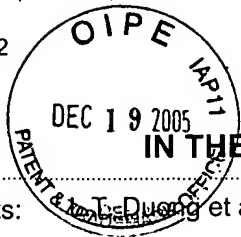
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Name	Nicole M. Beeler	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45,194
Signature			Date 12/16/2005

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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Typed or printed name	Barbara Muller		
Signature		Date	December 16, 2005



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ts Duong et al.

Serial No. 10/550,532

Filed: September 22, 2005

For: METHODS FOR TREATING ARTHRITIC CONDITIONS

Art Unit: To be assignedExaminer: To be assigned

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

Sir:

1. In compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, submitted on the attached form herewith is a list of patents, publications or other information which are requested to be made of record in this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b).

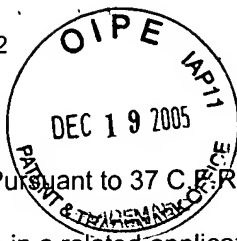
2. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

3. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner initial the attached form after reviewing the pertinence of each reference.

4. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication are not enclosed herewith.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

5. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), copies of references listed on the attached form that were submitted to or cited by the Office in a related application upon which the instant application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 are not enclosed. Related application(s) in which references were submitted to or cited by the Office are as follows:

RELATED APPLICATION		
U. S. SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	MERCK CASE

If this is inconvenient, additional copies will be submitted upon request.

6. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, (check one)

- ☒ the attached information is filed within three months of the filing date of the captioned case.
- ☐ the attached information is filed more than three months after the filing date but prior to the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.
- ☐ the attached information is filed before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.
- ☐ the attached information is being filed more than three months after the filing date and after the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. The enclosed authorization is therefore given to charge Deposit Account No. 13-2755 for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).
- ☐ each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.
- ☐ each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application *and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.*
- ☐ no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated under 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole M. Beeler

By: Nicole M. Beeler

Attorney _____ For Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 45,194

MERCK & CO., INC.

Patent Dept., RY60-30

P.O. Box 2000

Rahway, N.J. 07065-0907

(732)594-1077

Date: December 16, 2005

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